



**Solicitation Information
June 20, 2013**

Addendum #2

RFP # 7467392

**TITLE: Engineering Consulting Services to Evaluate the Implications of Climate Change
With Respect to Rhode Island Wastewater Collection and Treatment
Infrastructure**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: July 16, 2013 at 11:00 AM (ET)

PLEASE NOTE:

**A NON-MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE HAS BEEN SCHEDULED
FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2013 AT 11:00 AM AT THE DEPT. OF
ADMINISTRATION/DIVISION OF PURCHASES 2ND FLOOR, BID ROOM, ONE
CAPITOL HILL, PROVIDENCE, RI.**

ATTACHED ARE E-MAILED VENDOR QUESTIONS WITH STATE RESPONSES.

**Gail Walsh
Chief Buyer**

Vendor Questions/DEM Answers

1. Can you either (1) provide the expected LOE (in person hours or total costs) for this effort such that proposals can be tailored to resources available or (2) provide additional details to bound the scope. *[For example, currently under Task 1, the analysis must include, but is not limited to inundation, increased riverine flooding, sea level rise, costal storm surge and rising groundwater levels. Without an outer bound of issues to be considered, we cannot provide a realistic cost estimate.]*

Answer: The RFP allows respondents flexibility in the approach they propose to meet the project's objective of assessing climate-change-related vulnerabilities of the targeted wastewater infrastructure. DEM would not expect the proposals to include new model development where comparable public domain modeling or work product is available; e.g. maps of projected sea-level rise. Respondents may also choose to develop new or refined applications of existing available modeling tools as appropriate to meet the project objectives. The modeling work products would be expected to be paired with information on the physical locations of infrastructure to develop and implement a strategy for listing and prioritizing the nature of vulnerabilities at each treatment facility and key collection system components. It is DEM's intention that the assessment process address at minimum all the items listed above (inundation, increased riverine flooding, sea level rise, costal storm surge and rising groundwater levels). DEM encourages respondents to make use of prior publicly available work products that can contribute to the analysis. Regarding available resources for this project, further information is expected to be available June 27th.

2. How much modeling is anticipated? The RFP states that the project will involve "predictive tools, e.g., computer models to project potential impacts." The amount of modeling needed will affect the total price.

See Answer to #1.

3. Will both the technical and cost proposals for all submissions be made available publically?

Answer: All information will be public once the award is made and purchase order issued.

4. On p. 11, for cost proposals, did you intend to indicate that quotients would be multiplied by 30 (not 15) to get a maximum potential of 30 points?

Answer: Yes, the multiplication factor should be 30.

5. Is the RFP intended to address the ongoing CSO abatement programs in RI?

Answer: Yes, for those systems that operate and maintain combined sewer overflow facilities, such infrastructure should be considered in the assessment to the extent necessary based on vulnerability.

6. The RFP asks the respondent to evaluate the effects on infrastructure of “rising groundwater levels”. This will be a function of rising sea level plus climate-induced changes in the water balance. A quantitative evaluation would likely require working with a groundwater model. Is the intention to include a modeling evaluation of changes in groundwater levels or is a more qualitative evaluation desired?

Answer: The DEM expects a qualitative analysis to provide a general understanding of how potential changes to groundwater levels may impact infrastructure viability and operations.

7. Could the contractor include an annex to the proposal in addition to the annexes identified in the RFP for resumes?

Answer: Yes.

8. Section 3 states that “This work must include site inspections of at least some, if not all, wastewater systems. Site inspections should be prioritized based on the potential for impacts” Could DEM clarify the expectations and level of effort that is anticipated for the site inspections?

Answer: DEM expects the vendor to visit each wastewater treatment system at least once and, as needed, visit key collection system/CSO infrastructure. The goal will be to acquaint the vendors with the physical locations, topographical grades, etc, and existing protective measures of key infrastructure. Subsequent inspections may be necessary but are not required unless clarification is needed.

9. Other than cooperation during the site inspections, how much if any involvement does DEM expect from the wastewater utility managers/operators?

Answer: DEM expects the full cooperation of WWTF staff, including availability for site visits, meetings, phone calls, etc. This cooperation will be limited to explaining infrastructure locations, functions, historical vulnerability, etc. DEM will encourage but cannot require WWTF staff involvement in vulnerability analyses.

10. Given that the technical approach could vary dependent on the types of models used and degree of specificity involved, could DEM provide further guidance on the resources allocated for this project?

Answer: Further funding information is expected to be available for the pre-proposal conference on July 10, 2013 at 11:00 am.